

# Winsford Urban District Council



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1959



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MEMBERS OF THE WINSFORD URBAN  
DISTRICT COUNCIL.  
1959.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor H. Sadler, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor A. Sanders.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor T. Bratt, J.P. Chairman.

Councillor G. Tomlinson. Vice-Chairman.

Councillor D. Atherton.

Councillor W.H. Barnes.

Councillor W.J.W. Forgham.

Councillor J. Jackson.

Councillor L. Jackson.

Councillor L. Knight.

Councillor G. Morgan.

Councillor P. Tipple.

Councillor J. Higgins.

Councillor F. Shannon.

Councillor J.N. Wilson, C.C.



WINSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

HEALTH REPORT FOR 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the Winsford Urban District Council

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following statement of essential matters affecting the Public Health of the Town during the year 1959:-

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,094 acres.
Population - Registrar-General's latest estimate of population (mid-1959)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,010
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1959)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,120
Rateable Value (1959)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£113,044.
Sum represented by a penny rate (1958/59)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£411. 14. 3d.

The following extracts from vital statistics of the year relate to net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General.

		Total	M.	F.		
Live Births	(Legitimate	190	97	93	} Birth rate per 100 of the estimated resident population	
	(Illegitimate	8	5	3		15.21.
						After adjustment by the Comparability Factor ... 14.44.
Still Births	(Legitimate	6	4	2	} Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	34.14.
	(Illegitimate	1	1	-		
Deaths	...	158	98	60	Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	12.14.
					After adjustment by the Comparability Factor	14.08.

Death rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1000 live births	...	...	...	40.40.
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	42.10.
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	Nil.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	20.
" from Diphtheria (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil.
" from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1.
" from Meningococcal Infections..	...	...	...	Nil.
" from Acute Poliomyelitis..	...	...	...	Nil.
" from Measles (all ages)..<	...	...	...	Nil.



The following table compares the main statistics for 1959 with the years 1947-1959:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population.</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Death Rate</u>	<u>No. of Deaths from Cancer.</u>	<u>No. of Deaths from Tuberculosis.</u>
1947	11,640	22.85	14.26	33.83	22	6
1948	12,050	19.33	13.19	21.45	23	5
1949	12,100	18.92	12.81	34.93	19	3
1950	12,490	17.22	12.58	27.90	19	3
1951	12,770	16.91	12.92	18.51	21	2
1952	12,820	16.38	10.92	19.04	23	6
1953	12,860	16.56	10.65	14.08	24	3
1954	12,930	15.85	12.14	39.02	17	3
1955	12,980	13.55	11.71	45.45	18	-
1956	12,980	16.79	13.71	32.11	32	3
1957	12,970	17.81	10.87	12.98	16	1
1958	13,000	15.53	11.84	14.85	28	-
1959	13,010	15.21	12.14	40.40	20	3

CAUSES OF DEATH - 1959

( Taken from the Registrar-General's Tables )

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	-	2
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	-	1
3. Syphilitic Disease	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	1	1
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	1	4
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	6	9
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	6	19
18. Coronary disease, angina	14	4	18
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
20. Other heart disease	13	7	20
21. Other circulatory disease	6	3	9
22. Influenza	1	2	3
23. Pneumonia	5	3	8
24. Bronchitis	7	-	7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	-	3
26. Ulcer of stomach duodenum	1	-	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	2	5
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	3	2	5
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	13	24
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	-	3
34. All other accidents	-	1	1
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war.	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	98	60	158

New Industries.

Messrs. I.C.I. are carrying out an extensive expansion and modernisation scheme at their Rock Salt Mine at Meadow Bank.

Weaverside Manufacturing Company opened a new clothing factory in High Street.

C.W.S. Ltd., are building premises for a Soft Drink Depot in Dean Street.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

FOR THE AREA.

(A) Provided by the District Council.

(1) Staff.

W.S. Slater, M.B. Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,	Medical Officer of Health, Hartford Hill, Darwin Street, Northwich, Cheshire.	(Services shared with the other three Mid-Cheshire Districts, and the County Council.)
Clerical Staff.	1 person. (whole-time)	(Services shared with the other three Mid-Cheshire Districts).
T.H. Rogerson, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.,	Chief Public Health Inspector, Meat & Food Inspector.	(Winsford Urban District Council only).
F. Lamb, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.,	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.	- do -
J.C. Long,	Inspector's Assistant.	- do -
R.D. Clarke,	Pupil Inspector.	- do -
N.T. Taylor	Pupil Inspector.	- do -

2. Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory Services in Manchester, which are provided free of charge to the Winsford Urban District Council provided adequate during the year. Details of the samples taken are given later in this report.

3. Environmental Services.

Details of the other Services e.g. Public Health and Housing Inspections, Food examinations, etc., etc., provided by the Winsford Urban District Council are recorded later in this report.



(B) Hospital Services.

(i) Infectious Diseases.

Admissions of cases of Infectious Diseases are now spread over the following hospitals: Warrington Isolation Hospital, Monsall Fever Hospital, Crewe Isolation Hospital and Macclesfield Hospital. To which hospital our cases go depends largely upon the preference of the patient's doctor, and, of course, on the availability of hospital beds.

(ii) General Hospital Services.

The need for better Hospital services to serve the Mid-Cheshire area as a whole still remains urgent. Probably the increasing mileage covered by the local Mid-Cheshire Ambulance Service (on roads becoming more and more congested) provides the best evidence of this need namely 208,787 miles in 1959 as against 202,106 in 1958 and 194,827 in 1957.

The Joint Mid-Cheshire Hospital Committee in support of their case towards the end of 1959 organised a Petition and this was presented to the Minister by the three Members of Parliament for the Mid-Cheshire Constituencies. One outcome of this Petition resulted in a promise "that Officers of the Ministry would discuss with the Manchester Regional Hospital Board detailed proposals in connection with the proposed new Hospital".

It seems it is now left to the Mid-Cheshire Committee to continue to press their case in the hope that some early real headway may be made.

(C) Provided by the County Council.

The Cheshire County Council have officers discharging duties in the Winsford Urban area under the following services:-

School Medical, Maternity and Child Welfare including Milk Food Sales, Tuberculosis School Dental, Health Visiting, Weights and Measures Inspection, Specialist Services e.g. Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Paediatric, Home and Domiciliary Midwifery Services, Speech Therapy, Residential and Temporary Accommodation, under the County Welfare Services, etc., etc.

In addition, the Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee (under the auspices of the County Council) provided the following services:-

(a) Vaccination and Immunisation Schemes.

The work done during the year 1959 in the District is detailed as follows:-

Vaccination against Smallpox.

Pre-school Children	...	...	52
School Children	...	...	2
Adults	...	...	8

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Pre-school Children	...	...	1
School Children	...	...	-
Re-Immunised	...	...	2

Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation.

Pre-school Children	...	...	123
School Children	...	...	-
Re-Immunised	...	...	40



Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

Satisfactory headway has been made in the Urban District under the "Polio" Vaccination Scheme and many sessions have been held throughout the district at the Clinics, Doctors' Surgeries and Works Surgeries etc. By the end of the year some 2,400 Winsford Urban residents up to the age of 25 years are estimated as having completed their full course of three injections. At the time of writing the response in the area to the scheme continues to be good.

(b) Sitting Case Car and Ambulance Service.

The service in the area continued to deal with patients expeditiously though the increasing congestion of the roads and inevitable delays at the bigger hospitals does from time to time upset the time-tables of our vehicles however carefully programmed.

(c) Prevention of Illness - Care and After Care.

The call for bigger items of after-care equipment e.g. wheel-chairs, hydraulic hoists etc., continues to increase year by year.

(d) Domestic Help Service.

The service continues to expand year by year and is undoubtedly one of the best means whereby older people can remain longer in their own home surroundings. Institutional accommodation, however excellent, is for most elderly people but a poor substitute for their own homes.

(e) Family Planning.

The Family Planning Clinic, which remains controlled locally by an active team of lady volunteers, working under the general guidance of the Family Planning Association, has been held every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. at the County Council Clinic, Weaver Street, Winsford. During the year 176 married women from Winsford and the adjoining districts attended at least once for specialist advice. These attendances were made for many reasons including financial, ill health, housing, family spacing, etc.

## SECTION C.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The Engineer reports as follows:-

"Water Supply.

The water supply provided by the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board during the year has been satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Maintenance work necessitated by subsidence continues at the main Over and Wharton Works, the Wharton works being particularly affected. The three small works at Meadow Bank, Clive and Whitegate continue to function satisfactorily.

The Council has appointed Messrs. Ward, Ashcroft & Parkman of Liverpool as Consulting Engineers in the preparation of a comprehensive scheme for the sewerage of the district. This scheme will provide for the development, both Industrial and Residential arising from the agreement with Manchester Corporation for the reception of overspill population as well as for the existing town.

A motor gully/cesspool emptier has been purchased and the emptying of private cesspools and septic tanks is now undertaken as a service. The machine also has an attachment for the reception of nightsoil and this enables the nightsoil collection to be carried out in a more hygienic manner than was previously the case.

Closet Conversions.

These are being carried out where availability of sewers permits.

Recreation Grounds.

The existing Over and Wharton recreation grounds are being maintained with bowling greens, tennis courts and other facilities offered. The Council owns an area of land adjacent to the Wharton recreation ground which it is hoped in the future to develop as an extension to the recreational facilities of the district.

Licensed Camping Sites.

There are four camping sites in the district, three of which are situated on land near to and overlooking the River Weaver and one site in the Whitegate District.

The camping sites in the district accommodate approximately 100 moveable dwellings.

Canal Boats.

No canal boats are now registered with the Council.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

River Pollution.

There is no known pollution of the River Weaver in Winsford.

Swimming Baths.

The Council's swimming baths have been maintained in good condition. A close supervision of the water quality is being maintained with tests three times daily.

26 samples of swimming bath water were taken for bacteriological examination during the year, 24 were found to be satisfactory and 2 were unsatisfactory. One of the latter samples was most unsatisfactory and was probably a faulty sample."



### Rodent Control.

The reorganised service for rodent and insect control has functioned smoothly during the year. The support of the local branch of the National Farmers Union was sought in an attempt to extend the control of rodents in the area. Representatives of the N.F.U. were met to discuss the question of annual contracts with the Council for the control of rodents on agricultural premises. The Union Secretary also circulated the farmers advising them to avail themselves of the Council's Rodent Control scheme which has the full support of the N.F.U. This circular did not meet with very enthusiastic support. Following this approach, the farms in the area were visited by a member of the departments staff, but to date only six farmers have taken out contracts with the Council. This figure represents only about 10% of the agricultural holdings in the district. This lack of response is particularly disappointing in view of the very moderate charge which is made for this prompt and regular service.

Business premises of all descriptions are also catered for by this service; 15 contracts are at present held with owners of premises of this nature. A contract ensures a regular quarterly treatment together with intermediate check inspections, this procedure gives very good control over any infestations.

Indiscriminate tipping of refuse and food scraps which occurs in different parts of the town are frequently a source of trouble and prove an attractive harbourage for rats. The eventual introduction of a weekly household refuse collection service should help to overcome this trouble.

### Insect Control.

Insect Control is an important service which seldom receives the attention it deserves. Many insects, flies in particular, can be vectors of disease and can be controlled by a properly organised service equipped with modern insecticides. The Council's operator has attended a course on Insect Control held by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. A variety of insecticides are always held available ready to deal with any infestation of insects which may occur, and recently electrical power spraying equipment was also obtained; this power spray has proved particularly effective for large premises for both surface and mist spraying.

Two contracts are held with the Winsford Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd., for insect control at their Bakehouse and for fly control at the abattoir. Control of insect pests at this bakehouse is obtained by the use of Gammexane Emulsion Concentrate which gives effective protection for a period of three months. At the abattoir, flies are controlled by the application of a solution of 50% D.D.T. Wettable Powder, and this treatment is given monthly during the period of March to October.

Complaints of insect pests in households are usually associated with infestations of cockroaches or ants. These can be effectively eliminated by the use of Chlordane or an application of insecticidal lacquer, the latter remaining effective for periods of up to three years.



# ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

On the 15th day of September, 1959, the Council made its first Smoke Control Order. The Order covers the proposed Grange Lane Estate, an area of some 112 acres. No existing premises were included in the order, but eventually the area of smoke control could be extended to cover properties within Delamere Street, High Street and Grange Lane. This Order forms the first part of the Council's proposed long-term programme of domestic smoke control for the district. This programme will include three more sites of post-war development, viz., 1. The Dene Estate, to be divided into six phases, (112 acres), 2. The Greville Estate area, (46 acres), 3. The Kingsway Estate area, (8 acres). The Greville Estate area should be made the subject of a smoke control order in the near future as approved appliances are already installed in all Council Houses on this estate, consequently, no financial burden on the Council will be involved in making this area smokeless. Any further housing estates which may be developed for housing overspill population under the Council's Town Development scheme should be designated a smoke control area in advance of development. At the time of writing this report authority has been given by the Council for a scheme to be prepared for the establishment of a smoke control area covering 87 acres for proposed housing development at Crook Lane.

There is now no serious problem of industrial smoke pollution in Winsford as the past five years has seen the closure of much obsolete plant and modernisation of other furnaces in the district. It is likely, therefore, that the level of pollution actually recorded at various points in the district is influenced by the degree of pollution originating from sources outside the Winsford Urban Area. The Clean Air Act, 1956 considerably strengthened the control over industrial smoke emissions and the provisions of this Act will prevent a repetition of the black smoke palls which persistently clouded the skies of this pleasant district in the past.

Observations of atmospheric pollution conditions continued throughout the year at the four recording stations in the district. The average monthly analysis of deposited matter over the past three years shows a fairly constant levelling out, and we can therefore expect no significant decrease in the rate of atmospheric pollution until more domestic premises come within the boundaries of further smoke control areas such as are envisaged in the proposed long term programme for the town. These records give a general picture of the degree of local atmospheric pollution and consequently are of much value and should therefore be continued.

The following table gives the average monthly analysis of deposited matter and sulphur dioxide at the four sites in the district during the year.

AVERAGE MONTHLY ANALYSIS. 1959.					
Site.	R.	I.D.	S.D.	T.S.D.	S.O.2.
Knights Grange Farm.	1.93	2.97	4.72	7.95	1.28
Gladstone St. School.	2.06	2.88	6.74	9.54	0.82
Woolworths.	1.76	5.77	7.97	13.09	1.11
Wharton Church.	1.80	5.41	6.56	10.92	1.10

R.	Rainfall in inches.	T.S.D.	Total solids deposited in tons
I.D.	Insoluble Deposits.		per square mile.
S.D.	Soluble Deposits.	S.O.2.	Sulphur Dioxide.



SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Statement of Inspections made and Notices issued  
(Based upon a Statement made by the Public Health Inspectors)

Nature of Inspections made.	No.	Number of		Stat- utory.	In- formal.	Notices Complied with.	Remaining in hand.	Prosecutions	
								Instituted.	Pending.
1 Dwelling Houses (General)	620	4	121	119	6	-	-	-	-
2 Tents, Vans, Sheds.	26	-	7	6	1	-	-	-	-
3 Privy, Middens, Earth closets									
Peat, pails, cesspools,	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Privvies.									
4. Cesspools.	6	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-
5 House Drainage.	49	8	10	18	-	-	-	-	-
6 Ditches, Watercourses etc.	23	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-
7 Offensive Accumulations.	17	-	4	3	1	-	-	-	-
8 Keeping of Animals.	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9 Offensive Trades.	8	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-
10 Slaughterhouses (Public)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11 Slaughterhouses (Private)	2300	-	10	10	-	-	-	-	-
Other Places where food is produced or sold:-									
Bakehouses.	11	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
Canteens.	8	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Cafes.	8	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Food Shops.	90	-	20	17	3	-	-	-	-
Butchers Shops	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Food Premises.	50	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-
12 Dairies.	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13 Factories with Mechanical Power.	20	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
14 Factories without mechanical Power.	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 Other Premises under the Act. (Including works of Building)									
Outworkers Premises.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 Ashbins.	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17 Overcrowding.	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18 Places of Amusement.	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
19 Verminous Premises.	14	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-
20 Water Closets.	10	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
21 Water Supply.	8	-	8	8	-	-	-	-	-
22 Shops (Shops Act)	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23 Miscellaneous.	60	-	7	7	-	-	-	-	-
24 River Boats.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 Infectious Diseases.	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 Interviews.	583	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-
27 Sampling.									
Milk.	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Water.	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ice Cream.	50	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	-
28 Smoke Abatement.	160	-	12	11	1	-	-	-	-
29 Markets.	13	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-
30 Disinfection.	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31 Disinfestation.	80	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1949.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises.	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupier prosecuted.
Factories without mechanical power.	13.	9	-	-
Factories with mechanical power.	58	20	3	-
Other Premises.	3	-	-	-
Totals.	74	29	3	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred.		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
			to H.M. Inspector.	by H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness.	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation.	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage to floors.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences.					
(a) Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act. (Not including offences relating to outwork.)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.	3	3	-	-	-



SECTION D.HOUSING.

No new Council owned houses have been erected during the year. Schemes, however, have been prepared for a programme of 50 dwellings comprising flats and bungalows. These will be built on sites off Townfields Road and at Alamein Drive, Dene Estate during 1960.

Council houses erected before 1939 are being modernized and the worn out coal ranges have been replaced by combination grates and by grates with tiled surrounds. Further modernization work is also envisaged.

Private housing development continues steadily in the area and during 1959, 17 new dwellings were completed.

The Council are anxious to develop the area and the agreement made with Manchester for the reception of overspill population will result in large scale new housing activity.

THE HOUSING ACT, 1957 SLUM CLEARANCE.

Slum clearance has again been on a very restricted scale due to the absence of a house building programme, and the original five-year slum clearance programme is now nearly three years behind schedule.

At the beginning of the year, some 72 families remained to be rehoused, out of a programme which envisaged the clearance of 153 houses by the end of 1960. The majority of those remaining houses are in the Victoria Terrace, Hill Street and Winsford Hill areas which call for clearance area treatment.

During the year under review, 6 houses were demolished and a further 6 were closed. In addition, 5 cottages at Bradford Wood were declared a Clearance Area.

It is unlikely that the residue of the original programme will be disposed of before the end of 1962.

OVERCROWDING.

	No. of Dwellings.	No. of families.	No. of Persons.
(a) The number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year together with the number of families and the number of persons dwelling therein.	4	5	21
(b) The number of new cases of overcrowding reported during 1959.	3	4	14
(c) The number of cases of overcrowding relieved and the number of persons concerned in 1959.	5	8	36
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses in respect of which the L.A. have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding have again become overcrowded.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(e) Any other particulars with respect to conditions in relation to overcrowding upon which the Medical Officer may consider desirable to report or which the Minister may from time to time require.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

The details above are in accordance with the requirements of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959, and are extracted from the records of applications for Council Houses.

## SECTION E.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Under this heading, the Chief Public Health Inspector reports:-

MILK SUPPLY.

During the year 54 samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, with the following results.

Grade.	Methylene Blue.		Phosphatase Test.	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Ungraded. ..	-	-	-	-
Tuberculin Tested. ..	-	-	-	-
T.T. Pasteurised. ..	8	-	-	-
Sterilised. ..	10	-	-	-
Pasteurised. ..	36	-	36	-

ICE CREAM.

38 samples of Ice Cream were taken during the year, with the following results:-

Grade 1.	27 samples.
Grade 2.	11 samples.
Grade 3.	nil.
Grade 4.	nil.

FOOD PREMISES.

There are 189 food premises in the town, which can be classified as follows:-

65 General groceries and provisions, including three outdoor beer licenses, including 25 licensed to retail Ice Cream.

13 premises with Bakehouses and shops selling bread, confectionery and grocery, including 6 licensed to retail Ice Cream.

19 Licensed Premises.

28 Premises selling sweets, including 4 holding catering licenses.

10 Fish and chip shops.

12 Greengrocers including 4 selling wet fish and three retailing Ice Cream.

16 Butchers Shops.

10 Industrial Canteens.

11 School Canteens.

5 Cafes.



OTHER FOODS.

Under the "unsound food Provisions", the undermentioned articles of food were found to be unfit for consumption and condemned:-

<u>Article of Food.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>	<u>Cause of Condemnation.</u>
Brisket Chuck & Shoulder of Heifer.	90 0oz.	Localised Oedema.
3 Tins of Strawberries.	18 12oz.	Fermentation.
2 Cases of Capons.	35 5oz.	Decomposition.
Ground Rice.	4 0oz.	Maggots.
Part loin Danish Bacon.	5 8oz.	Decomposition.
Middle Bacon.	12 0oz.	"
Pork Luncheon Meat.	- 12oz.	"
C.A.P. Corned Beef.	- 12oz.	"
Tom Piper Stewed Steak.	1 0oz.	"
Tom Piper Minced Beef Loaf.	- 12oz.	"
Tomatoes.	1 6oz.	"
Evaporated Milk.	1 0oz.	"
Cream,	4oz.	"
Stewed Steak.	15oz.	"
Rice.	15oz.	"
Polish Ham.	20 14oz.	"
Processed Peas.	33 8oz.	"
Pork loin.	2 0oz.	"
Corned Beef.	12oz.	"
Polish Hams.	20 14oz.	"
Pork loin.	6 0oz.	"
Polish Hams.	27 0oz.	"
Cooked Ham.	13 9oz.	"
Raisins.	26 0oz.	Mildewed.
	<u>242 14oz.</u>	

In addition, the following, based upon a statement by the County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors, is a summary of other samples, obtained in Winsford Urban District during the year 1959:-

Nature of Samples.	Number obtained.	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality.
Aspirin.	1	-
Beef Suet.	1	1
Cream (Sterilised)	1	-
Fish Cakes.	1	-
Fish Paste.	1	-
Gelatine.	1	-
Hake.	3	-
Ice Cream.	1	-
Ice Cream Lolly.	1	-
Milk.	19	
Milk(Charmel Islands)	<u>4</u>	2
Rum.	1	-
Salt, Table	1	-
Sun Orange Squash.	1	-
Sweets.	1	-
Whisky.	1	-
TOTAL	39	3

Particulars of samples not up to standard.

Milk	- Sub-standard but genuine deficient S.N.F. to extent of 1.1%	No action.
Milk	- Sub-standard but genuine deficient S.N.F. to extent of 2.3%	No action.
Beef	Containing two small pieces of wood	Cautioned
Suet	- the largest measuring about 3"x1"	26. 5. 59.

C.W.S. Bacon Factory.

During the year 1959, 60,344 pigs were slaughtered at the C.W.S. Bacon Factory, Bostock Road, Winsford, and the following table gives a summary of the average monthly percentage of whole carcasses, part carcasses and offal condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Whole Carcasses.	0.90%
Part Carcasses.	0.96%
Plucks.	0.81%
Entrails.	0.92%
Heads.	2.14%
Livers.	0.57%
Lungs.	0.49%
Kidneys.	1.23%
Leafs.	0.78%

Meat Inspection.

The following table, based upon a statement by the Meat Inspectors, is a summary of the carcasses inspected and condemned at the Bacon Factory and Private slaughterhouses during the year 1959.

1959	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed & inspected.	1400	217	38	4184	62,315
<u>All Diseases except T.B.</u>					
Whole Carcasses condemned.	11	26	4	11	491.
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	357	44	5	134	2,317
Percentage of No. inspected affected with Disease other than Tuberculosis.	26.29%	32.25%	23.69%	3.46%	5.30%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole Carcasses condemned.	12	15	1	-	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	55	7	-	-	1,273
Percentage of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	5.79%	10.13%	2.63%	-	2.08%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	4	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment to refrigeration.	4	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-



MEAT INSPECTION

The Chief Public Health Inspector reports:

"Bacteriological Examination.

Meat Inspection in Winsford, forms a considerable proportion of the duties undertaken by the Public Health Department staff, due to the fairly large amount of slaughtering which takes place in the area.

During the last decades of the 19th century, countries were becoming increasingly aware of the necessity to establish inspection in slaughterhouses due to the discovery that certain important parasites were transmissible to man. The need for inspection, however, became increasingly evident with the growth of the science of microbiology, when it was proved that consumption of infected meat could give rise to illness in man.

An efficient meat inspection service depends not only on the efficiency and competence of the inspectors, but also on the facilities available to them.

Occasions arise when the fitness or otherwise of a carcass is not always apparent from macroscopical appearances, and the inspector requires the evidence of a bacteriological examination to assist in his final judgement.

Whilst no international standards exist for the technical procedures in a bacteriological examination and the practical interpretation of the results varies from country to country, bacteriological examination of the carcasses of animals suspected of infectious disease is a well-established practise in meat inspection in several European countries.

Until the end of 1958, facilities in the bacteriological examination of meat were provided by the Department of Veterinary Pathology at the University of Liverpool. At the beginning of 1959, however, this Department of the University has been unable to carry on doing bacteriological tests for us, due to pressure of work.

It has long been the opinion of your inspectors that ideally, laboratory facilities should be available locally, and in particular, in our own area, where results could be obtained as soon as possible, in order that carcasses need not be detained longer than was necessary, and so that in cases of doubt, a bacteriological test could be carried out immediately. With this system in view, a small laboratory was established in the department, and gradually built up with the necessary equipment.

A small but efficient pressure steriliser was obtained, a small incubator (for the incubation of cultures), and a culture media obtained in the solid(tablet) form, as well as various chemicals required in the bacteriological tests. The simpler forms of examination are carried out according to recognised methods, and the results interpreted in accordance with established bacteriological practise, i.e.,-

- (a) Sample Sterile.
- (b) Specific Infection - which covers findings of all species of bacteria regarded as specific pathogens.
- (c) Low grade Non specific Infection (growth from one sample only, liver not counted).
- (d) High Grade Non-specific Infection (growth from two or more samples, liver not counted).

The term 'non-specific' infection covers the finding of species of non-pathogenic or only partially pathogenic bacteria.

Results named under (a) or (c) are no hindrance to passing the carcass, but results under (b) and (d) necessitate condemnation.

It will be seen from this, that the purpose of the examination is to obtain information on the bacteriological state of the musculature, organs and lymphatic nodes. The final judgement however, is made when the carcass is re-examined.



Bacteriological Examination(continuel).

There is no doubt whatever, that in cases of doubt, bacteriological examination is of inestimable value, not only from a Public Health standpoint, but also from the point of view of economy. Carcasses which may appear normal to the naked eye, but which are found to be bacteriologically unsound and potentially dangerous, are detected, and likewise, carcasses which may otherwise have been condemned due to an element of doubt arising may, on bacteriological examination, be found to be quite safe for consumption.

To enlarge upon this point, are 6 of the cases which arose during 1959, and are tabulated below for interest and information:-

21/1/59.(Freisian Cow)

Final Judgement of Carcass: A short forequarter (4th rib) was rejected as unfit; the kidneys were removed and the carcass released.

23/1/59.(Large White Sow)

Final Judgement of Carcass: Re-examined for abnormal odour - none present. Carcass released after rejection of other kidney.

26/2/59.(Landrace cross gilt pig)(In pig).

Final judgement of carcass: Carcass condemned on evidence of bacteriological report.

11/3/59(Hog pig).

Final judgement of carcass: Carcass released after condemnation of parts affected with arthritis.

1/6/59. (Black and White Cow).

Final judgement of Carcass. Re-examined, and released on evidence of bacteriological examination. Carcass would otherwise have been condemned.

5/11/59.(Unthrifty Ayrshire Heifer, approx. 4 months old).

Final judgement of Carcass: The carcass had set and bled well and showed no enlargement or haemorrhage of lymph nodes; it was condemned on evidence of bacteriological report.

The value of bacteriological examination in meat inspection has been stressed by various authorities, in particular it is contained in the report of the Interdepartmental Committee on meat inspection, dated 1951, in which it is stated that laboratory tests are not at present undertaken to any great extent in this country, although their importance is becoming more widely appreciated; the report further stresses the value of laboratory tests as a supplement to visual inspection, and, accordingly recommends that accommodation and facilities should be provided, to enable meat inspectors to carry out routine simple laboratory tests.

This recommendation is further endorsed by the publication the following year (1952) of the Methods and Criteria of Meat Inspection (Memo 3/meat) by the Ministry of Food.

Whilst the establishment of the small laboratory in our Public Health Department goes some way towards achieving a more efficient service, we do think that regional laboratories should be more accessible in various parts of the country, in order that meat inspectors may refer to them when a more expert and specific bacteriological or other examination is required. Further, it would be of great help if Ministry grants were made available to assist, in particular, the small local authority in whose area a large amount of meat inspection is undertaken and who are desirous of providing some simple on the spot laboratory facilities, in order to improve their meat inspection service.



Meat Inspection (continued).

The main difficulty associated with meat inspection in the district is to achieve a 100% meat inspection at the local bacon factory. This entails full inspection of all organs on the killing line at the time of slaughter; and experience has shown that this is not an attractive job. Since the reorganisation of the department some three years ago when additional staff was appointed, it has been possible to give a tighter control over this inspection, but even this allowed for one man on the killing line to check each carcass and to give general supervision over the points where organs are removed from the carcass and spot checked by slaughtermen. Overall control would mean three men on the killing line, with an additional inspector on the detention line to examine diseased carcasses.

I have often advocated during recent years that the requirements of inspection on a bacon factory killing line did not warrant the services of fully qualified Public Health Inspectors, and that men properly trained in meat inspection alone could carry out this work adequately. The reorganisation of the department referred to above was carried out with this in mind; the junior members of the staff being trained by my deputy and myself by means of regular classroom lectures in the department and by practical instruction at the bacon factory and abattoirs. This attempt at improvement did not of course fully answer the staffing requirements to achieve 100% meat inspection at the bacon factory by the Council's staff, and at some future date it will be essential to review the whole position with a view to achieving this very necessary target of 100% inspection.

To reach this target, two considerable difficulties will have to be overcome. The first concerns lack of trained or qualified staff and the second, the cost of employing this staff. At the time of writing this report, new regulations had just been issued jointly by the Minister of Health and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food which prescribe the new qualifications needed to create a new type of meat inspector for work in bacon factories and abattoirs; presumably the intention is to attract certain employees in the meat trade to qualify for these posts which will then be integrated with the existing local authority meat inspection service and working under the direction of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The employment of additional staff for these duties will add to the cost of inspecting export meat by the local authorities, and it remains to be seen how this additional cost is to be met".



FOOD HYGIENE.

A local campaign for cleaner food has been in progress since 1955, each year food premises of all descriptions have been visited and the traders advised on methods to improve their premises<sup>to</sup> comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. The major difficulties to overcome, are, however, connected with the handling of food and the indifference and ignorance on the part of some of those persons engaged in the food trade. In an endeavour to overcome these difficulties, the first series of courses of lectures for food trade employees was held during the latter part of the year. These lectures were arranged with the County Director of Education and were held at the Winsford Evening Institute. Four courses of six lectures were arranged, and although considerable publicity was given to this venture, only a total of 32 persons were enrolled, consequently only two of the courses could be held. The syllabus covered the basic essentials of good food hygiene practice and is briefly summarised as follows:-

Introduction. A general outline of the course including the scope of Food Hygiene, its methods and limitations. Brief Historical references. The need for Hygiene in the Food Trade. The nature of Food infections and the part played by the employee in the prevention of food infections. Personal Hygiene and hygienic practises at work. The legal obligation of the food trade in food hygiene matters.

The Basis of Food Hygiene. Bacteriology in relation to food. The nature of bacteria. The different kinds of bacteria, and how infection is produced. Important groups of micro-organisms. Bacteriology applied to the control of food.

Food Poisoning. An introduction to food infections. Clinical types of food poisoning. Miscellaneous sources of illness due to contaminated food. Factors affecting food poisoning - time, temperature, moisture. Types of food affecting the prevention of food poisoning.

Hygiene of Food Stuffs. Food values. The handling of meat. Cooked meats - sausages, pies, etc. Fish and shellfish. Milk - premises, designated milks, heat treatment. Milk as a source of illness. The manufacture and sale of ice cream. Ice cream as a source of illness. Confectionery and allied foods. Food preservation - refrigeration, and canning.

Hygiene of Food Premises. Design and construction of food premises. Prevention of food contamination. Personnel. Equipment. Cleaning methods. The use of chemical detergents and sterilising agents. Storage of food and utensils. Inspection. Food hygiene in the home - affects of careless handling - infection of food in the home - food preparation - protection of food against contamination.

The Law of Food Hygiene. Legal requirements as to food premises, the employer and the employee. The effect of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 on trade practices. The Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Clean Food Byelaws. Regulations relating to slaughterhouses, factories, the transport of meat, the sale of food.

These lectures were illustrated by sound films, film strips, lantern slides, flanel-graphs and practical demonstrations showing the dangers of contamination arising from dirty equipment and unhygienic personal habits; for example, the students took swabs from the prongs of table forks, chipped crockery and from other sources such as tea cloths, finger nails, skin lacerations and so forth. These swabs were smeared on culture media and incubated in the departments laboratory and were then exhibited at the following lecture. The results of these demonstrations vividly reinforced the spoken word and emphasised the real dangers associated with careless handling of food.

These courses do show that many persons engaged in the food trade today are still influenced by old practises and ideas, and it is only by carrying out an educational programme of this nature that proper methods of food handling can be achieved.

At the conclusion of the courses 23 of the students qualified by attendance for a course certificate. These certificates together with metal lapel badges were presented to the successful students by the Chairman of the Council.

Food Hygiene (continued)

Experience has since shown that these courses were worth while and it is hoped to make them a regular feature of the Council's Health Education Programme during future years.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

In addition to the Educational work relating to food hygiene, the Council's Inspectors give lectures on various subjects relating to Public Health to local organisations during the winter months. Visual aids in the shape of film strips and flanel graphs are used and many individual lantern slides are prepared in the department itself for these various lectures. Educational films are of particular value for this work and a suitable projector should be obtained at some time for this purpose, and would enable the field of Health Education to be considerably extended.

This service is regularly sought by local bodies and every effort is made to produce interesting and instructive lectures to promote better communal health.



SECTION F.PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIONS  
AND OTHER DISEASES.1. Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

Diseases.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	11	-	-
Measles.	67	-	-
Pneumonia.	-	-	-
Whooping cough.	2	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-
Erysipelas.	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	-

Cases occurring in age groups 5 years and under, and over 5 years.

Disease.	5 years and under.	Over 5 years.
Scarlet Fever.	10	1
Measles.	40	27
Pneumonia.	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-
Erysipelas.	-	-
Poliomyelitis.	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-

2. Tuberculosis.

The table below details the ages of both new cases and deaths from both forms of Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and mortality during 1959.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Other Forms.		Respiratory.		Other Forms.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 "	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 "	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-
45 - 55 "	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 "	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.	2	1	1	-	2	-	1	-

During the year 1959, 7 cases were admitted to, and 11 cases discharged from hospital.

The number of patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the years:-

1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
93	92	72	74	59	56	54	57	58	57	52.



Mass Radiography.

No visit was paid to the area by the Unit based on Stockport during 1959.

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

The disinfection of 18 premises was carried out in connection with Infectious Diseases.

The disinfestation of 80 premises was carried out in connection with the eradication of insect pests.

I would like to say, in closing this report, how much I appreciate the help I have received from Members of the Council and Officials in dealing with the various matters which have arisen during the year.

W.S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1960.

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